

NOWS

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MARCH 1977

NO. 1

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

MARCH

JUNE

SEPTEMBER

DECEMBER

The objective of the Numismatists Of Wisconsin shall be to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and the coin clubs of Wisconsin, as well as collectors of other states, and to encourage and assist new collectors and coin clubs. All resources shall be used to further the above objectives.

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Think that day lost whose low descending sun Views from thy hand no noble action done.

Jacob Bobart.

What if, back in 1960, our founding fathers had not met to discuss the possibilities of founding a state organization? Is it safe to assume that another group would have taken decisive action in this vein? Would we have progressed as well had the time and the principals differed?

Rather intriguing, to be sure. Were the questions put to me, I would have to say "yes, we would have progressed well had our avenues been different".

You see, I believe in the Numismatists of Wisconsin. I believe in the people who have been involved with our organization and I believe that we have people within our fold who will lead NOW to even greater plateaus in the future.

As we near our 17th annual convention in Green Bay, it seems fitting to comment on the direction of our organization. The N.O.W. governing board met in Green Bay on the 30th of January. We are financially sound. Larry Spanbauer out-lined his plan to enlarge the quarterly journal. Mark Ferguson has reported a surge of interest in the NOW ad/contract program. Several committee members have reported on their particular assignments. And, many good ideas came to light, indicating an agressive, healthy situation within the organization.

And what of the convention itself? An intense program has been lined up. Something for every numismatic taste. We will feature a 50 plus table bourse, well over 200 feet of competitive displays. Meetings have been slated by the Civil War Token Society, the Odd & Curious Society and an organizational meeting of the Wisconsin Numismatic Writers Association.

Our educational forum will feature a panel of three well known numsimatic scholars. Our "Hassles of the Hobby" roundtable will most certainly attract much attention.

The second annual W.Y.N. Benefit Auction will be held on Saturday. And, we've not even mentioned the little groups which will certainly form, as the cammaraderie runs rampant at our annual convention.

How fortunate are ours.

The governing board of the Numismatists of Wisconsin met in Green Bay on January 30, 1977 in conjunction with the Nicolet Coin Club Winter Mini-Coin Show. A number of items were discussed.

Nominations for the four Board of Governors seats included Gerald Johnson, Wisconsin Rapids * Marion Anderson, Menasha * Peter Phillips, Madison * Jerome Tillung, Eau Claire * Betty Finner, Iola * Harold Helm, Oshkosh * and Richard Hoffman, Appleton. Additional nominations can be submitted until March 1, 1977.

Cliff Mishler submitted a list of revisions for Article I, Section 2 which will be voted upon at the General Membership Meeting on Sunday May 1, 1977 at 10:30 A.M. as a part of the State Convention which will be held in Green Bay. The revisions would insure the "infusion of new blood in the governing body" in the state organization.

The NOW board voted to accept the invitation of the Eau Claire Coin Club to host the 1978 State Convention.

The board voted unamimously to authorize NOW President Kurt Krueger to write the letters voicing the groups opinion on the subject of removing the public members participation in the 1977 and future United States Assay Commissions. Letters were sent to President Carter and Mint Director Mary Brooks. It was later learned that Kurt was to be a member of this years commission if it were held. Kurt received a telegram on Feb. 5, from the Treasury Department informing him that he had been appointed but that the Feb. 9th meeting would not be held.

It was also noted at this meeting that 30 new members have been added to the NOW organization.

The dues for existing members have been slow to arrive reported our secretary Richard Phelps. If you have not yet sent your check for \$4.00 for 1977 dues, PLEASE DO SO NOW!!!!!

A problem which has been a part of this organization for the past few years has again surfaced. I refer to the duplicate scheduling of coin shows on a given weekend, this year being the weekend of April 23 and 24.

I hope that this is the last time that such a problem is encountered, and with your help it will be! When the December issue of the N.O.W. News was sent to the printer in the first week of November, only five (5) clubs had submitted show dates to be listed. The listing in this issue contains four (4) shows for the problem weekend with a total of ten (10) new entries including three (3) for 1978.

While the problem encountered this year cannot be corrected, with the help of the coin club secretaries, it doesn't ever have to be repeated. When a show date is decided by your club, send the necessary information to both Harold Collins and myself, (our addresses are listed on page 3 of every issue) as early as possible. Since this publication is a quarterly, a listing a year in advance is almost a must.

The N.O.W. News is not responsible for scheduling shows but is trying to keep abreast of all shows so that no club show will suffer loss of dealers or attendance due to a situation such as this years April dilemma. We know that this will continue to be a great task but with the co-operation of all club secretaries we can make it work. If a conflict of shows should occur in the future and there is ample time, Harold Collins will contact both show chairmen to try to solve the problem.

AGAIN REMEMBER, LIST ALL COIN SHOW DATES EARLY, THE EARLIER THE BETTER!

Now on to a happier note. The Numismatists of Wisconsin and the Nicolet Coin Club will host the 17th Annual N.O.W. Coin Show and Convention on April 30 - May 1, 1977 in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

The show will be held in the Brown County Arena located on Lombardi Avenue next to the Packer Stadium between the hours of 10 A.M. on Saturday April 30 and 5 P.M. on Sunday May 1. The Midway Motor Lodge, located one block east of the Arena, is advised for people interested in spending the night.

In charge of this years show is Michael Segersin, P.O.Box 1451, Green Bay, Wis. 54305. Highlights of the show in addition to the bourse will be the annual open meeting for all N.O.W. members, an auction for the benifit of the states Young Numismatists, which was a very enjoyable session as well as being profitable at last years convention, and the Sunday morning awards breakfast.

Pictured below are some of the people who attended last years open meeting in Madison. I hope you will be a part of this years picture.



THE NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN SPEAKERS BUREAU

The following is a list of those who have volunteered to participate in the N.O.W. Speakers Bureau Program. Interested groups should contact these speakers directly to make the proper arrangements.

1.	Clem	Bailey;	Malta;	general.		
			P.O.Box	275,	Iola,	Wis.

- Ken Bressett; Colonial American; general.
 1220 Mound Avenue, Racine, Wis.
- 3. Jack Curtis; Saint Gaudens; Chinese coins; magicians tokens P.O. Box 547, Stevens Point, Wis.
- 4. Virgil Jackson Isle of Man; type coins; China.
 94 West Water Street, Beaver Dam, Wis.
- Floyd Janney Limited Availability
 P.O. Box 143, Waukesha, Wis.
- 6. Arnold Jeffcoat General.

 Numismatic News, Iola, Wis.
- 7. Chet Krause General; current events.

 Numismatic News, Iola, Wis.
- 8. Kurt Krueger Exonumia; general; Young Numismatists.
 P.O. Box 7, Kimberly, Wis.
- 9. Cliff Mishler General; current events.

 Numismatic News, Iola, Wis.
- 10. Richard Phelps Coins of Modern Greece; circulating tokens.
 P.O. Box 212, Sussex, Wis.
- 11. Russell Rulau World Coins; general. World Coin News, Iola, Wis.

12. Neil Shafer World paper money; Phillippine coins.
1220 Mound Avenue, Racine, Wis.

13. Charles Opitz Odd and Curious Money.

12550 Pinewood Road, Brookfield, Wis.

14. R. S. Yeoman Historical coins of the world; general.
1220 Mound Avenue, Racine, Wis.

If your club does indeed participate in this worthwhile program, it is suggested that an A.N.A. Educational Certificate be ordered for your guest speaker, providing, of course, that the presentation was good. Your club will also be expected to offer the following courtesies:

- A. The desired speaker should be contacted no later than three months prior to the proposed engagement date and given full details concerning the time, place, and type of program desired.
- B. The speaker should be given an estimate of the anticipated attendance which should be no fewer than twenty.
- C. A suitable topic will be agreed upon between the club representative and the speaker. The moderator should acquire details about the speaker and his topic and properly introduce him to the audience.
- D. Format and length of talk must be agreed upon and enforced.

 A program of 20-45 minutes duration is usually suitable or
 15-20 minutes if there is more than one speaker.
- E. The host club should be responsible for providing suitable sound and projection equipment if necessary.
- F. The speaker should be given clear directions about the location of the meeting place.
- G. The host club should reimburse the speaker for travel, meals and also any lodging expences incurred.

It dawned on me that a lot more collectors would take up coin collecting if they could actually see the various colors on the coins from foreign countries. Especially the colors used on the many coats-of-arms found on European pieces - any place else that used heraldy could also be included.

We all forget - from time to time - that the coin and medal designers used a short hand or code to tell us about the colors used in actual practice by the arms shown on the coinage.

Silver on a coat-of-arms or more properly "blazon of arms" is represented by the total lack of any marks in an area represented to be silver. Gold or "or" (such combinations as that drive editors crazy) is represented by engraving the area with dots. Everyone knows that "or" indicates gold or does it?

Azure or blue is represented by horizontal lines (lot of collectors refer to them as "back and forth lines"). The up and down lines or the vertical also the perpendicular represents the "gules" or the red color. Diagonal lines which slant from the top left to the lower right are the "vert" or green color. The opposite diagonal lines are the "purpure" or purple color. The diagonals in combination represent black.

It is a shame that our eye and brain aren't hooked together in order to translate these colors to us when we observe the code of the signs of heraldry.

In the United States the use of coat-of-arms has never become a red hot item - although many commercial companies do have similar designs used as trademarks.

A number of arms were used in early America by the migrants from Europe but no general recording of those arms was ever formally made. The closest catalog of such items is the "Gore Roll of Arms". John Gore and his son were wagon painters in

Boston and evidently came into possession of a list made by an earlier unknown painter. This list recorded arms made for hatchments or banners for the funerals of those families that did have arms. Hatchments were boards with the arms of the deceased to be used in front of the house.

The recording of that unknown was started in 1701 and the last notation was made in 1724. The book was never traced back any further than the second owner - John Gore who was born in 1718.

The last time the "Gore Roll of Arms" was published was in 1865 in the <u>Heraldic Journal</u>. Doubtless it has been copied several times since by other publications.

The interest in heraldry picked up in the Centennial year of the United States in 1876 as several societies interested in genealogical history tried to compile arms used in America prior to the Revolution.

Such interest has not carried over to the Bicentennial on a large scale because arms were never used by the public on any scale.

Collectors make one link in the continuation of the heraldry chain.



Having examined thousands of coins at coin shows around the country and in people's collections, I have noticed that certain considerations have <u>not</u> been taken into account by collectors and even some dealers when they purchased some of their coins. While purchasing coins we should make a careful examination of them including factors such as grade, authenticity, color, and price.

If we want a particular coin in a particular grade we must decide for ourselves whether or not the coin, when we find one, makes the grade. The dealer's word on this should not always be accepted. Overgrading by some dealers to make that extra buck is the obvious problem; however, no two people will usually grade all coins the same. If a buyer has not taken the time to thoroughly study the area of grading in question for a coin, he should carry a reliable grading guide with him when he intends to make a purchase. The ANA Grading Board will be of great assistance to us, in this regard, when it becomes operational in the near future. For another word on the grade of a coin it might be advantageous to buy only from dealers who guarantee their coins to meet the standards of the ANA Grading Board and who will buy their coins back if they don't meet the standards; then, have the Board examine the coin or coins and issue its decision.

Uncirculated coins are often misrepresented. I have seen many people buy coins that were called uncirculated, but actually were not. Most of the time a good magnifying glass is all that is needed to tell an about uncirculated coin from an uncirculated coin, along with knowing what to look for. An uncirculated coin shows no signs of circulation. "Rub" or "friction" on the highest parts of a coin reduce the coin's grade to almost uncirculated. These marks are distinguished by tiny lines of abrasion which run in helter skelter directions on the highest points of a coin. Also, on proof coins fine "hairline" scratches which may be difficult to notice reduce the quality of a coin. When buying high quality coins it is essential that the buyer learn the difference between average, choice, and "gem" quality coins.

Another important factor to consider is the authenticity of a coin. There are outright fakes on the market. Some of them can be recognized at a quick glance, others need careful examination under a microscope, or other tests to determine their authenticity. There are many die struck counterfeit gold coins on the market, as well as silver examples. The alteration of coins including the addition or removal of dates and mint marks is probably the greatest problem to look out for along with die struck counterfeit gold coins. Beware of cleaned or unnaturally colored coins. Some have been "played with" or "worked on" to cover up alterations. A few good books are available on this subject to help us detect counterfeit and altered coins. When buying "key" coins, such as a 1909-S VDB cent, it is always a good idea to make arrangements with the dealer to have it authenticated by a service such as the ANA Certification

Service. This kind of certification will help the buyer rest easily, knowing his coin has been authenticated as genuine; and, the certification of a coin by ANACS many times brings a higher price for the owner when the coin is sold. Additionally, when buying a coin with an ANACS certificate, always make sure the ANACS certificate goes with the coin that is being sold. Sometimes the coins are switched. If necessary, compare the ANACS photograph with the coin by using a magnifying glass.

It has been my experience that most people prefer their coins to have original surfaces; i.e., original toning, color, or luster. Coins have been recolored by artificial means. Copper is particularly susceptible to this. Some silver coins have been retoned probably by certain liquid solutions. Also, carbon spots detract from the value of coins. They are frequently found on copper coins, and sometimes it is very difficult to find Indian cents, for example, that are free of carbon spots, yet that possess original color. Fake toning has also been used to cover up "hairlines" (very fine scratches) on early proof coins. Learn to look "through" such toning to see if these are present. Identifying original surfaces on coins is quite subjective and only comes through the experience of examining many coins. Learn what whizzed coins are and what cleaning does to coins.

Price is a major determinant in what kinds of coins to buy. All of our pocket books have limits. Hence, "Value" is the thing to look for when buying coins. Do some comparison shopping. Dealers have been known to overgrade and overprice coins. Actually, overgrading is just a way of overpricing coins. Along with a reliable grading guide, the coin buyer should carry one or more current trend listings with him while looking for coins to purchase. If this is not possible he should at least do some research on the prices of coins he plans to purchase and have a limit in mind for which he wishes to pay. Bargain prices usually mean something is wrong with a coin such as overgrading, damage, or counterfeiting. However, if you "read the book in order to know what to buy," you can find some true bargains in the marketplace.

One rule to keep in mind while buying coins is, "If in doubt, don't." You may pass up some good deals this way, but you greatly reduce your chances of being taken. If a dealer becomes uneasy when you examine his coins with a microscope or compare them to a grading guide, be cautious.

Lastly, always keep in mind that it is your hard earned money you are spending. Get the most for it.

FARE TOKENS OF THE NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

by: GEORGE CUHAJ

In 1940 the Interborough Rapid Transit Co. and the Brooklyn and Manhattan Transit Co. mearged with the publicly owned Independent system to form the New York City Transit System which lasted until March 23, 1953 when the New York City Transit Authority was created and began effective June 15, 1953 to opperate all transit lines owned by the city and to raise the fare to 15¢.

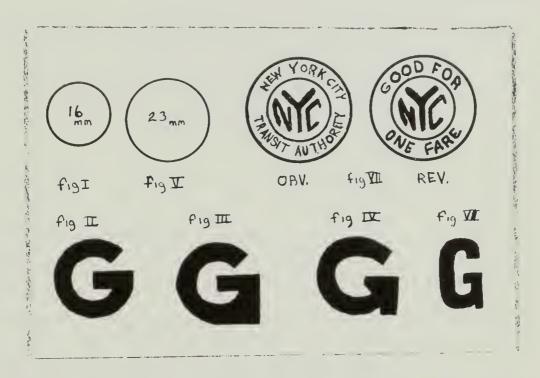
There are two 15¢ tokens with a total of seven varities, and here is an easy way for all you vecturists out there to acquire a complete set. Both tokens are 16mm in diameter and brass, and all have the same obverse and reverse inscription—NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY around NYC on the obverse and GOOD FOR ONE FARE on the reverse around NYC. (This will also be the same for all future issues also) fig. 1.

The first issue (NY 630 AN in Atwoods Catalogue of Transportation Tokens) is solid but it has four varities (which collectors can easily distinguish by the shape of the letter G in Good) two were minted by the Osborne Coinage Co. (which have a circular G)(fig. 2) and two were made by the Scoville Mfg. Co. (which have a square right corner on the G)(fig. 3). The two varities in each are a smooth surfaced and a mottled surfaced NYC in the center of the token. There were 4 million minted by the Osborne Co. and 7 million by Scoville, and of these only 3 million were smooth surfaced. These tokens were issued solid because of the short time the Authority had to get them into use and they were only used for two months when they were replaced by NY 630 AO which has the Y stencil cut out in the NYC in the center.

There are three varities of these:

Osborne Coinage (circular G)(fig. 2) mintage 2.5 million Scoville Mfg. Co. (square bottom G)(fig.3) 4.5 million Meyer & Wenthe (arrow G)(fig.4) mintage 23.5 million

NY 630 AO remained in circulation until Jan 4, 1970 when a new token was issued, due to the fare increase from 20% to 30%. This token which is presently used (fig. 5) is 23mm, brass, and has the Y stencil cut-out and has the same legend. It has only two varities: round G by Osborne (fig. 2) arrow G by Meyer & Wenthe (fig. 4). The Scoville Mfg. Co. went out of business in 1956.



The least known fare token is the Aqueduct Special token. It is the same as all its predesors but it is 28mm in dia. (fig. 6) This token (NY 630 AP) was placed in use in Nov. 1966 at the price of 75¢, and is only used until spring of each year. The fare is now a dollar. The Acqueduct Special is a train the Authority runs from the Mid-Town Manhattan area to the racetrack which is located along the right-of-way in the Borough of Brooklyn. There is only one variety of this token which has a "condensed G" (fig. 7).

The NYC fare was raised to 35% in 1973 and to 50% in Jan. 1975. Only time will tell wether or not a new token will be authorized when the next fare increase in approved, but one thing will be sure---the only ones who will be happy about it will be the VECTURISTS!!!

NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN BOURSE AND EVENTS PROGRAM

17th ANNUAL CONVENTION

APRIL 30, - MAY 1, 1977

BROWN COUNTY ARENA GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN

FRIDAY APRIL 29, 1977

6:00	p.m.	Bourse and exhibit areas open to dealers and exhibitors.
10:00	p.m.	Bourse and exhibit areas secured.
10:00	p.m.	Firewater Pow-Wow Kick Off. Mid-Way Motor

Lodge, French Quarter.

SATURDAY APRIL 30, 1977

8:00	a.m.	Bourse and exhibit areas open to dealers and exhibitors.
9:00	a.m.	Official ribbon-cutting ceremony. Convention opens to the public. Registration area opens.
9:00	a.m.	N.O.W. Hospitality Area opens, East lower concourse
10:00	a.m.	N.O.W. Board Meeting. West lower concourse meeting room.
12:30	p.m.	Civil War Token Collectors Society Meeting. West lower concourse meeting room.
2:00	p.m.	N.O.W. Past Presidents Panel Meeting. West lower concourse meeting room.
3:30	p.m.	Educational Forum in west lower concourse meeting room. Speakers to be announced.
5:30	p.m.	Wisconsins Young Numismatists Benefit Auction in west lower concourse meeting room.
6:30	p.m.	N.O.W. Hospitality Area closes.
7:00	p.m.	Convention hall closes for the day.
9:00	p.m.	Wisconsin Coin Dealers Association organizational meeting. Mid-Way Motor Lodge, French Quarter.

SUNDAY MAY 1, 1977

8:00 a.m.	N.O.W. Awards Breakfast. Mid-Way Motor Lodge
	French Quarter,
0.30 0 m	Bourse area open to dealers and exhibitors.
9:30 a.m.	Dourse area open to dealors and omitterors.
70:00 a.m.	Convention opens to the public. Registration
	area opens. Hospitality area opens.

10:30 a.m.	N.O.W. General Membership Meeting. West lower concourse meeting room. Election results to be announced.
12:00 noon	Odd and Curious Collectors Society Meeting. West lower concourse meeting room.
1:00 p.m.	Hassles of the Hobby. Roundtable Discussions. West lower concourse meeting room.
3:30 p.m.	Wisconsin Numismatic Writers Association organizational meeting. West lower concourse meeting room.
4:00 p.m.	N.O.W. Hospitality area closes.
5:00 p.m.	1977 N.O.W. Convention closes.

SEE YOU IN EAU CLAIRE IN 1978

Don't forget to purchase your Historic "Tank Cottage" Medal. They are available in proof bronze for \$6.00, regular mint quality bronze for \$3.50, or a brilliant mirror-like silver proof for just \$15.00 per medal. All pieces were struck by the Franklin Mint. They are available by writing to the Numismatists of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 316-W, Iola, Wis. 54945.





March 5-6	Oconomowoc	Allan V.B. Clark Show Deer Park Bowling Lanes Harry Collins - Chairman P.O. Box 711 Menomonee Falls, 53051
March 27	Madison	East Side Business Mens Ass. 3735 Monona Drive Don Clark - Chairman 1927 Winnebago Street Madison, Wis. 53704
April 3	Appleton	Appleton Coin Club Country Aire Alice Miller - Chairwoman 813 John Street Menasha, Wis.
April 17	Eau Claire	Chippawa Valley Coin Club Eau Claire Holiday Inn Jerome Tillung - Chairman 815 Morningside Drive Eau Claire, Wis. 54701
April 17	Milwaukee	South Shore Coin Club Milwaukee, Wis.
April 17	Wausau	Wisconsin Valley Coin Club Gerald Johnson 1927 Chase Street Wis. Rapids, Wis.
April 23-24	Racine	Racine Moter Inn C.L. Dickerson - Chairman 1345 Maria Racine, Wis. 53404

April 23-24	Michigan	Michigan State Numis. Soc.
April 24	Sheboygan	Sheboygan Coin Club Standard Hall 13th and Indiana Chairman - P.O. Box 907 Sheboygan, Wis.
April 24	Waukesha	Waukesha Coin Club P.O. Box 321 Brookfield, Wis. 53005
April 30-May 1	Green Bay	N. O. W. State Show Brown County Arena Mike Segersin, Chairman 1159 Day Street Green Bay, Wis. 54301
May 7-8	Brookfield	Numismafest Five Kurt R. Krueger - Chairman P.O. Box 7 Kimberly, Wis. 54136
May 13-15	Milwaukee	Central States Numis. Soc. Red Carpet - Expo Center A.P. "Del" Bertschy - Chairman 714 East Glendale Ave. Milwaukee, Wis. 53211
May 22	Oshkosh	Oshkosh Coin Club Park Plaza Mark Ferguson - Chairman P.O. Box 2584 Oshkosh, Wis. 54901
Sept. 9-11	Illinois	Illinois Num. Ass. Convention Northwest Suberban Coin Club P. O. Box 902 Arlington, Heights, Ill. 60006

RATES FOR ADVERTISING IN THE N.O.W. NEWS

All N.O.W. members are eligible to advertise in the N.O.W. News. The ads are to be sent to the N.O.W. News Advertising Manager, and should be camera ready and in "good taste". Payment is to be made to the N.O.W. Secretary-Treasurer. This payment is to be sent in advance of publication.

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Full Page\$100.00	Full Page
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Quarter Page 35.00	Quarter Page

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ONE ISSUE - QUARTERLY

The deadline for receiving material for this publication is listed as follows. Please keep this deadline in mind when submitting advertising, coin club news, show dates, and all other related material.

March Issue	.February 1st.
June Issue	.May 1st.
September Issue	.August 1st.
December Issue	

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This sale contains tokens from the collection of Doug Watson, who purchased the finest known collection from George Fuld, and added over 100 pieces. Also included are many PLATE tokens photographed for the George & Melvin Fuld catalog: Civil War Storecards. Included in this and the next sale are:

- *HARD TIMES TOKENS-Listed by Low
- *CIVIL WAR TOKENS-Listed by the Fulds Including some choice Patriotics and Storecards of Illinois, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin and other states.
- *EARLY U.S. STORECARDS-Listed by Miller Including a few in choice condition and several scarce pieces.
- *MASONIC CHAPTER PENNIES & MASONIC MEDALS-Listed by King

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... other future sales will concentrate on material similar to the above, other pre-1940 exonumia, and ... EARLY STORECARDS and MEDALS listed by Betts, Miller, Wright, Baker, King etc; WORLD MEDALS-A wide variety of Medical, Art and Historical Medals.

SCHEDULED CLOSING DATE: 30 April 1977

Please send \$3.00 for this and the next auction.

CONSIGNMENTS INVITED. PLEASE WRITE FOR INFORMATION

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MAY 13 - 15, 1977

THE RENOWNED CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 38th ANNUAL CONVENTION

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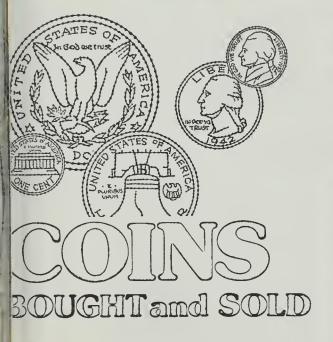
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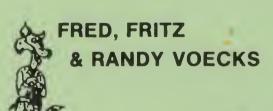
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